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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

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SUBJECT Higher Education in Communist China

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
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1. Colleges of arts and sciences, especially, in Communist-occupied China, will be merged and reduced in number as an economy measure. Attendance at such colleges in North China has already fallen off by two-thirds to three-quarters, because students are going into paid administrative posts in the new government. Students of science and engineering are not permitted to leave, however, and colleges offering well-established courses of this kind are actually increasing in enrollment. Communist educational philosophy seems to be that education through technical school level is sufficient for the masses, and only a small elite group deserves college training.
2. For the present professors and students in national universities are much better off economically than they had been under the Nationalist Government. They are, however, oppressed by lack of freedom and uncertainty of the future.
3. Communist authorities admit that they have no definite plan for the future, but it is expected that all teachers will be hired by the government and assigned to an institution at the government's will. As colleges are merged and abolished their teachers will be shifted to public administration posts, where they are desperately needed now.
4. Communist educational authorities in Peiping have made the following announcements with regard to private universities:
  - a. The government formally encourages the existence of private universities, as the government is financially unable to open public ones to replace them. Graduates from these universities will be taken into government administrative positions to help satisfy the present vast need for personnel.
  - b. Students will be required to pay tuition\*.
  - c. Students will not be permitted to strike or stage demonstrations, as the period for student disturbances is over\*\*.
  - d. Students will be required to take examinations as prescribed by the private university; any student who refuses to do so can be dismissed.

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[REDACTED]

a draft of a paper, Development of Higher Education.

This paper contains the following points:

- a. Private institutions like Lingnan University are to be permitted, but some changes in personnel will be necessary.
- b. University education will be shortened to three years, because the present freshman year is regarded as merely a repetition of things already learned in middle school.
- c. Immediately after the taking of Canton, college and university students with at least one year's credit will be put to work in public positions so as to meet the emergent need for trained personnel in the new government. Later these men and women will be permitted to finish their courses at will in one or two years as needed.
- d. Colleges of medicine, science, agriculture and engineering are to be left without interference, but the colleges of arts and social sciences will be thoroughly reorganized.\*\*\*\*

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\* [REDACTED] Comment. This is in contrast to several reports that the Communist authorities are giving silent approval of students' refusal to pay tuition in private institutions.

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\*\* [REDACTED] Comment. This is in contrast to reports that students are being permitted to strike to get what they want.

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\*\*\* [REDACTED] Comment. It is assumed that a part of this is in money or the value of the millet and that these are monthly salaries, wages, and subsidies.

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[REDACTED]

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